

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

1. (Currently amended) An isolated and substantially purified DNA sequence comprising SEQ ID NO:3, wherein SEQ ID NO:3 includes at least one variation selected from the group consisting of:

a T at nucleotide base number 4121 of SEQ ID NO:3;

a C at nucleotide base number 4621 of SEQ ID NO:3;

a T at nucleotide base number 4970 of SEQ ID NO:3;

a C at nucleotide base number 11056 of SEQ ID NO:3; and

a T at nucleotide base number 12145 of SEQ ID NO:3;

~~or a fragment of SEQ ID NO:3, wherein said fragment includes at least one of said variations and is at least 20 nucleotides in length.~~

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Cancelled)

4. (Cancelled)

5. (Previously presented) A hybridization probe comprising the DNA sequence of claim 1 and a detectable label.

6. (Cancelled)

7. (Cancelled)

8. (Cancelled)

9. (Cancelled)

10. (Cancelled)

11. (Cancelled)

12. (Cancelled)

13. (Cancelled)

14. (Cancelled)

15. (Cancelled)

16. (Cancelled)

17. (Cancelled)

18. (Currently amended) An isolated host cell ~~A host cell~~ comprising a vector, wherein said vector further comprises ~~a DNA sequence that corresponds to~~ SEQ ID NO: 3.

19. (Cancelled)

20. (Currently amended) The isolated host cell ~~The host cell~~ of claim 18, wherein ~~said DNA sequence~~ SEQ ID NO:3 includes one or more of the variations selected from the group consisting of:

a T at nucleotide base number 4121 of SEQ ID NO:3;

a C at nucleotide base number 4621 of SEQ ID NO:3;

a T at nucleotide base number 4970 of SEQ ID NO:3;

a C at nucleotide base number 11056 of SEQ ID NO:3; and

a T at nucleotide base number 12145 of SEQ ID NO:3;

~~or a fragment of said DNA sequence that includes one or more of said variations and is at least 20 nucleotides in length.~~

21. (Cancelled)

22. (Cancelled)

23. (Cancelled)

- 24. (Cancelled)
- 25. (Cancelled)
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- 27. (Cancelled)
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- 39. (Cancelled)
- 40. (Cancelled)
- 41. (Cancelled)
- 42. (Cancelled)
- 43. (Cancelled)
- 44. (Cancelled)

45. (Cancelled)

46. (Previously presented) A DNA sequence that is one hundred percent complementary to the DNA sequence of Claim 1.

47. (NEW) A DNA primer sequence consisting of a portion of SEQ ID NO:3 that includes one or more of the variations selected from the group consisting of:

a T at nucleotide base number 4121 of SEQ ID NO:3;

a C at nucleotide base number 4621 of SEQ ID NO:3;

a T at nucleotide base number 4970 of SEQ ID NO:3;

a C at nucleotide base number 11056 of SEQ ID NO:3; and

a T at nucleotide base number 12145 of SEQ ID NO:3.

48. (NEW) A DNA primer sequence that is one hundred percent complementary to the DNA primer sequence of Claim 47.

49. (NEW) A DNA probe comprising the DNA sequence of Claim 47 and a detectable label.

50. (NEW) A DNA probe that is one hundred percent complementary to the DNA probe of Claim 49.